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OBSERVATIONS BY THE KICKER.

Having No Answer to Socialist Exposures, the Ruling Class is Driven to Try Persecution and Suppression.--Warren Gets Six Months and \$1,500 Fine. Daily Socialist in Bold Fight on Corruption and Graft in Chicago.

It is not surprising that the capitalists are active in trying to suppress Socialism. It is the only movement that threatens their existence. All the exposures and "reform" movements that have appeared in recent years are the result of the persistent exposures of Socialists and Socialist papers.

The attempted legal murder of the officers of the Western Federation of Miners was nipped in the bud by the Socialists. The murder of the Jewish boy, Averbush, by the Chief of Police, George M. Shippey, of Chicago, in order to give color to an "Anarchist plot," was exposed by Socialists. Every effort was made by the ruling class and the press of Chicago to cover the matter up and prevent an investigation, but the Chicago Daily Socialist went after the facts and so aroused public sentiment that an investigation followed and the murder of this poor boy who had been driven to America after his parents had been murdered by the Russian Czar, was clearly established. And while Chief Shippey was not prosecuted, yet he has practically terminated his connection with the Chicago police force.

When Rudowitz, the Russian refugee, was wanted by the Czar, he was jailed and a dirty judge condemned him to the mercy of the Russian tyrant to be murdered. But the Socialist press so aroused public sentiment at this outrage that Secretary Root reversed the court and set Rudowitz free.

Now Fred Warren, editor of the Appeal to Reason, has been convicted of sending scurrilous and defamatory matter through the mails—just as if it were possible to send more scurrilous and defamatory matter through the mails than the capitalists print about the Socialists.

Fred Warren is the managing editor of the Appeal to Reason. When the highest court in the land held as legal the kidnapping of the officials of the Western Federation of Miners out of their state into a foreign state, in the night by special train, Warren wanted to see if the court would hold to the same opinion in case the kidnapped person was a capitalist and a Republican. So, consulting his postmaster as to its admissibility to the mails, and after being assured by said officials that it was, he offered a reward for the return of ex-Gov. Taylor to the authorities of Kentucky.

This put the administration in a desperate hole. The reward was kept standing and attempts to kidnap Taylor are said to have been frustrated by the police. Something had to be done. The first move was to arrest Warren. Next a Republican governor was set over the people of Kentucky. Four times Warren's trial was postponed by the government until at last the Kentucky governor pardoned Taylor, the accused murderer of Gov. Gobel. Then Taylor was free to travel and he went to Fort Scott, Kan., to appear as a witness. Had he left the protection of the Indiana governor before his pardon he might not have found the protection in other states and might have been surrendered to the Kentucky authorities.

However, after Warren's conviction the judge suspended sentence until November. This caused the Appeal's circulation to boom and a defense fund of some \$20,000 has already been pledged to fight the case. Socialists were just beginning to warm up when the court suddenly announced that it would hear the arguments for a new trial and pass sentence July 1.

Of course the motion for a new trial was overruled. Why not? Wasn't it a fair trial? A bunch of Republican partisans had been selected to try this Socialist, and although it was clearly established that several of them had previously expressed themselves opposed to Socialism, to the Appeal and to the defendant, that did not interfere with their competency as jurors in this case. When the judge (the bulwark of our liberties) asked if he had anything to say why sentence should not be passed, Warren got up and made this brave reply:

"My arrest and conviction is the first instance on record where a man was prosecuted for attempting to bring to the bar of justice an indicted fugitive charged with the crime of murder. There must be some reason why I, alone, of the thousands of men who, according to the rule

of this court and the opinion of the district attorney and his assistant, have committed substantially the same act, should be singled out and marked for prosecution."

"In conclusion permit me to say that I am not asking the mercy or leniency of this court. I have committed no crime and there is festering in my conscience no accusation of guilt, but if my conviction and punishment will serve to rivet public attention upon the abuses which I have tried to point out, then I shall feel I have not suffered this humiliation in vain.

"After all, this is the price of human progress. Why should I expect immunity? The courts have ever been and are today, the bulwarks of the ruling class. Why should they not punish offenders against that class? In feudal slavery the courts sustained the feudal lords; in chattel slavery they protected the slave-owners, and in wage-slavery they defend the industrial masters.

"Whoever protests for the sake of justice or in the name of the future, was an enemy of society and persecuted or put to death."

"In one of the most eloquent characterizations of history, Charles Sumner, treading the marches of the centuries, pointed out that the most infamous crimes against liberty and progress of the human race had been sanctioned by the so-called courts of justice.

"This case is a mere instance in the mighty struggle of the masses for emancipation. Slowly, painfully, proceeds the struggle of man against the power of mammon. The past is written in tears and blood, and the future is dim and unknown; but the final outcome of this world-wide struggle is not in doubt. Freedom will conquer slavery, truth will prevail over error, justice will triumph over injustice, the light will vanquish the darkness, and humanity, disenthralled, will rise resplendent in the glory of universal brotherhood."

Now the Daily Socialist has begun the exposure of the city administration of Chicago—a "business administration," the capitalists call it. It has already produced figures from official records showing that the city treasury has been looted of millions of dollars, and now starts in to prove that the rich of the boulevard, through the city administration, profit from the vice and crime of the city.

Bear in mind that when a Socialist paper attacks capitalist government it must have the facts where they cannot get away. It must be ready to produce the proof if hauled into court—proof sufficient to overcome the lies of the capitalist press and the prejudice of the public. Hence it surprised even me when I read the following headlines in box-car letters in the Daily Socialist:

"Chicago Ruled by Band of Criminals. Mayor Busse is at Head of Most Notorious Clique that Ever Pilfered a City."

"Proveness Tells How Chicago Lives on Blood Money."

"\$2,400,000 is the Gang's Revenue from Gambling."

That the paper goes on and tells the story of Mary Douglas, who was roped in by a procurer, and the gambler's war that flourishes under police protection and has resulted in the throwing of thirty-one dynamite bombs. I have seen accounts of this bomb-throwing in the St. Louis papers, but these are so smeared over and indefinite that no one would ever suspect that the deadly missiles were thrown by rival factions of gamblers who are striving for "exclusive rights" in Chicago. Usually the dispatches are colored to leave the impression that the bomb-throwing is the result of labor troubles.

During the past few years thirty-one bombs have been thrown in Chicago in this gamblers war. Just before elections they are credited to "Socialists and Anarchists." Of the last bomb thrown on Sunday night, June 27, which destroyed about \$100,000 worth of property and injured 37 persons, the Daily Socialist says:

In the hope of covering up their friends, the gamblers, the police of Chicago have begun to insinuate that "bomb No. 31" was thrown by trade unionists. The men who say this know it is a foul lie. They know it better than anyone else.

They know why these bombs are thrown. They know who is responsible for their being thrown.

The police and the municipal authorities have been hoping against hope ever since the bomb throwing began, that an opportunity might arise that would enable them to ascribe these outrages to organized labor. If they had been lucky enough to have

found one stool pigeon who would have thrown a giant firecracker in the neighborhood of a scab or non-union establishment, then there would have been police activity in plenty.

.....

Ella Gingles, a working girl, was inveigled into the Wellington Hotel, a notorious resort in which it is said Tom Taggart, the boss gambler and Democratic chief of Indiana, is interested. Miss Gingles is a lace-maker, and went to the place to collect some money due her for work—not knowing the nature of the place. While there she was drugged, brutally assaulted and tortured. This "hotel" is a dive where the "cream of society" gamble and sport. The Daily Socialist is the only paper that told what happened to Ella Gingles. It just kept telling it until public sentiment forced action—on the part of the police.

Last week the chief witness in the case was found dead. Here is what the Daily Socialist says of the ruling class of Chicago.

Thugs, thieves and gamblers together with the procurers and managers of the white slave traffic, control the city government in Chicago, save when it is wanted by grafting contractors and franchise-grabbing corporations. Between these two forces, the tools of both, and levying tribute and extending protection to each in turn, stand the officials for whom the people of Chicago cast their votes.

Rival gangs of gamblers fight with dynamite bombs for the privilege of bribing officials. For more than a year they have battled with the high explosives to the imminent danger of the lives of the people of this city, until more than thirty bombs have been exploded within a radius of a few miles.

The police WILL not stop the gambling of those at whom the bombs are thrown lest they thereby interfere with the stream of wealth that flows into the hands of the city administration. They DARE not arrest those who throw the bombs lest so doing the whole criminal alliance be exposed.

So the bomb throwing goes on. But it is with the inhuman traffic of the red-light district that the connection is most flagrant.

When Ella Gingles was tortured more inhumanly by the white slave allies of the city administration, every force at the disposal of the administration was used to hush down and terrorize the victims and free the assailants.

Behind Agness Barrette, the procurer, who is accused of being the principal agent in the crime against Ella Gingles, has stood all the force of the combined Republican and Democratic machines.

When one of the witnesses of that terrible crime showed signs of breaking with the gang, she was found dead in another police protected resort, and again every power of the police and political pull was used to conceal the very fact of her death and to aid in the escape of those who might have been responsible for that death.

One of the dives, with which Agness Barrette is connected is the notorious Everleigh club, at which some of the highest officials in the city government spend nearly as much time as in their offices.

Throughout the entire red-light district the word has gone forth that "everything goes if you pay the price," and collectors of tribute for the coffers of the city administration, make their rounds with the regularity and almost the frequency of the postman.

And they tell us that Socialism is "immoral," "free love," "break up the home," etc. Golly!

Mayor Busse, of Chicago, has been reported very sick during the past week, but his physician now announces that he must have rest; that he must leave Chicago and not bother with prosecuting the Daily Socialist for criminal libel.

Gee! But it's getting warm—for our "best people."

FIXED ALL RIGHT.

The legislature did not change the senatorial primary election law, hence the voters will again be confronted with the difficulty of voting for United States Senators on the same ballot as for state officers.—Jackson Herald.

No change was necessary. The ruling class fixed it just as they wanted it at the previous session, and if a workman doesn't know any better than to vote a capitalist ticket he ought to be able to swallow the whole dose. The idea of enacting a law that would make it possible for a man of average intelligence to vote as he wants to is contrary to the peace and dignity of the state.

LIKE ALL REFORMERS.

Bro. McGuire, of the Jackson Cash-Book, is one of those tireless reformers who opposes evil every day in the year except election day, and on that day he would swim a creek to get to vote for it.

His last issue is filled from stem to stern with temperance and reform arguments—except for the criticisms of leading Democrats. He seems to imagine that the party and the individuals who make up the party are entirely separate and distinct. Approvingly he reprints the following from the Oak Ridge Indicator:

"The Democrats have no reason to be proud of Stone's record. During the campaign last fall Stone declared that he expected nothing at the hands of the Republicans. The Republicans seem to expect much at the hands of Stone, however, and they are not being disappointed.

Then Bro. Mc. says:

On June 22, in the senate, Senator Stone took a hand with Democratic and Republican senators in the fight for free hides. But when it came to a line-up, the distinguished statesman from Missouri voted with the Republican majority for a tariff on hides.

Gov. Johnson, of Minnesota, is also a good Democrat and was Jim Hill's candidate for the presidential nomination last year. Bro. Mc. says:

Gov. Johnson of Minnesota evidently does not believe in the binding force of his party's platform. The platform upon which he was elected governor demanded that the legislature pass a law putting a tax on iron ore.

Such a bill was passed by the legislature and vetoed by the governor. Gov. Johnson takes his place along with those statesmen who think they are bigger and wiser than the party. He belongs to the class of statesmen of which Senator Bailey of Texas is a conspicuous example. Bailey has repudiated the Democratic platform and is walking arm-in-arm with the Republicans in fixing up a tariff to suit the protectionist plutocrats.

Then Bro. Mc. complains because the Democratic state senate had a saloon attachment connected with the chamber, as well as a chaplain, and that the booze with which this saloon was supplied was furnished free by St. Louis brewers. And so on.

Why don't you quit the rotten bunch, Bro. Mc.?

JOIN THE ARMY—NIT.

For the benefit of young men who may be tempted to join the army by the handsome pictures of army life posted in every postoffice, the Kicker reproduces the following from the Cairo Bulletin to show what may happen even if you join a local military company.

Two members of Company K, Willis Bury and Ed Myers, who have persistently refused to drill with the company, according to Capt. Will P. Greaney, have come to grief. They refused to drill last night, the regular drill night, and Capt. Greaney went on a hunt for them and finding the two at the pool room on eight street, telephoned for sergeant of police Cowell to come and arrest them for desertion. About this time the company in the course of its drilling came through 8th street and the captain ordered the company to march the two offenders to police headquarters, where Bury and Myers were placed in jail.

Army life is worse than a dog's life, and from the number of desertions that are reported from the regular army, it is evident that many prefer to take the chance of imprisonment in the penitentiary to a continuation in the service.

The happening in Cairo was that of a local company where young men usually are "talked into it" and go in to show off. But in the regular army it is more severe. And should you gain the displeasure of the officers the life is next to intolerable.

WHO PAYS FOR IT?

Mr. and Mrs. J. H. Himmelberger and their children, Chas. John Barry and Catherine, and Mr. Fisher, left in their big touring car this morning for a trip to Louisiana, Ind., where they will visit relatives for a short time. After resting at Logansport for a few days, they will tour Northern Indiana in their car, visiting all the points of interest.—Cape Girardeau News.

Wonder if it ever occurs to the timber cutters, loggers, mill-hands and clerks around the mills down at Morehouse that it is from the profits of THEIR labor that this "big touring car" was fitted up, and the expense of this extended trip is being paid.

How many of the workers on the pay-roll of the Himmelberger Co. will take their families for an outing on a "big touring car" this summer?

Get subscribers. The Kicker will do the rest. Put it in every worker's home.

CO-OPERATIVE FARMING.

From the Agricultural Epitome Farmers are beginning to realize that they are not getting a fair deal from the middle man. It has always been a case of get "what the middle-man offers" instead of setting the price ourselves. There is only one remedy and that is co-operation. Farmers are scattered and work individually, but buyers get together and agree to hammer down the prices to the lowest possible notch.

Lessons of co-operation for American farmers can be gathered from Europe, where the movement has been working successfully for twenty years. Denmark carries on its dairy operations chiefly through co-operation. Over a thousand co-operative dairies are in operation, making \$35,000,000 worth of butter annually. The profits are divided among the stockholders, who are farmers. A reputation for high-grade, uniform products has been established, and over one hundred and thirty million pounds of butter are made annually.

Associated with these co-operative dairies are feed and machinery companies run in the interest of the farmers. Co-operative bacon associations are also operating, through which the Danish farmers sell their bacon, for which that country has a high reputation for quality. Nearly 30,000 Danish men and women are co-operating to get a good price for their eggs and poultry. They have egg collectors who go from farm to farm to collect eggs, which are taken to central packing houses, where they are tested and shipped. Every farmer is responsible for his eggs. He has to stamp his initials on each egg. For every bad egg that is found, the seller is fined \$1.25. This insures good quality and keeps up the reputation of his product.

Every year at threshing time wheat speculators publish columns of stuff about the immense yield of wheat. In this way they hammer down the prices as low as possible. By collusion the different grain buyers are in position to control prices to a very great extent. If farmers were organized they could offset this tendency and secure what the grain is worth. The same principle holds good in almost all farm products.

GET FARMERS AS LECTURERS.

From the Union Farmer. It used to be customary for farmers' organizations, when having picnics, to get a lawyer, politician, or other city man to deliver the oration of the day, because talking was his business, and he could talk freely.

It was also customary for that orator to flatter the farmers on the fact that they were the main stay of society and then make them believe that they were the most abused and down-trodden of men, and that they needed a Moses to lead them out of the wilderness into the promised land of commercial and political freedom. And he did not fail to give them a chance to at least guess that he would be about the proper man for the job of leading.

And don't forget, brother farmers, that it used to be customary also, for the farmers' organizations to commit suicide by going into politics.

But times have changed. Farmers are reading and thinking. There are lots of them in the farmers' union capable of not only giving us good thoughts but of putting those thoughts into fluent language.

It is therefore no longer customary nor necessary to call on the other classes of men to orate at farmers' picnics. Therefore we should have farmers to do our lecturing when the object is to discuss the general interests of the farmer.

SHREWD FINANCIERING.

From the Commoner. "These great financiers are deserving of our praise," declared the speaker. "They have made possible giant business enterprises. We may decide them now, but future generations will reserve the names of Rockefeller, Morgan, Carnegie and others."

"Pardon me," interrupted a little woman in the audience, "but you have not named the greatest financiers of this generation."

"Ah, I would be glad to hear you suggest the names of greater ones," said the speaker.

"I will not call the names, for there are too many," replied the little woman, "but I'll tell you who they are. They are the hundreds of thousands of women, wives of workmen whose average wages are less than \$450 a year. Such able financiers are they that they are able to give their children nourishing food, pay the rent, buy fuel and educate the children, clothe them and give them medical attention and fit them for citizenship—and all on a paltry sum that is mere weekly pin money for the wives of the men you named. I claim that the women I mention are the ablest financiers in the country. If they were not, the privation that is already prevalent would be woefully greater than it is."

And all the chattering that followed was for the little woman and her kind and not for the orator and the financiers named.

Let the Nation own the Trusts.

SOCIALIST PICNIC A SUCCESS.

Senator Gaylord Spoke in Afternoon and at Night and Sold Much Literature.—Perfect Order.

The Socialist picnic at Morley was a success. The crowd was large and orderly and all passed off pleasantly. It was in February that the Socialist decided to have this picnic. Although the Fourth came on Sunday, and it would have been quite as appropriate to have celebrated on Monday as on Saturday, all the picnics announced in this county were billed for the same day selected by the Socialists—Saturday.

Oran was first to butt in with a "free barbecue," and those who attended found out how "free" it was. Chaffee, Sikeston, Illinois and Edna all had barbecues on that day and the county W. C. T. U. also decided that Saturday was a good day, so they billed a basket dinner and prize contest for Benton.

Early the crowd began to gather and crowded at the gate where the dinner tables were inclosed. There was some delay in preparing dinner, and when the gate opened the jam was terrible. About 150 were admitted and the gate closed. It was past 2 o'clock before all got dinner, and the speaking began.

The Kicker introduced Senator Gaylord, of Wisconsin, and the crowd was eager to hear him. The eagerness of the men was shown by their crowding up around the speaker's stand as if not to miss a word. After a few introductory remarks Senator Gaylord said:

"We Socialists in Wisconsin do not believe that Socialism will come suddenly some day like a brick dropping out of a clear sky, or like an eruption of Vesuvius."

"Socialism means democracy—social democracy. And by democracy we understand something which means the same for society as self-control means for one man."

"Government means the control of society—social control—democracy means social self-control. And that is what Socialism aims at and is accomplishing."

"We do not have any kind of a democracy now for all the people although our political forms of action furnish the means of creating a democracy. Industrially we are governed by a plutocracy. The trusts, the corporations and the Napoleons of finance furnish what government we have in industry and commerce."

"Politically we have a government worthy of the name. The laws have been made at the behest of corporations. They have been interpreted by a crowd of hired lawyers."

"Nevertheless, social-democracy is coming, and about two lines mainly—

"First—whenever an organization of working men secure an agreement with their employer which in any way enables them to effect the conditions, wages or the hours of labor, there, and to that extent for those people, industrial democracy is coming."

"Second—Whenever the working people succeed in having the laws of property made in their own interests rather than in the interests of a few parasites owners, there and to that extent political democracy is coming."

"These two kinds of social self-control are necessary. The rules of labor must be made by the laborers, and the rules of property which they must use when they labor must also be made by them."

"And this is also, being done. This is the meaning of the nume-

ical ownership movement. And especially is this the meaning of the Socialist party on the political field."

"For the trades unions are not organized, not are they competent as such, to make the laws of property. But the workers must control the property on which their labor depends; otherwise they cannot have self-control."

"In the state of Wisconsin we are gaining self-control along both these lines, and it is getting ready everywhere else."

Then it began to rain. Two or three times Senator Gaylord suggested that he had better stop, but the crowd—men and women—stood in the rain and shouted, "Go on!" "Go on!" "All right," he said and went on. All over the crowd parasols and umbrellas went up and presently those in the rear complained that the umbrellas deadened the sound and they could not hear. Comrade Gaylord announced that he would stop until after the shower.

The rain ceased in about twenty minutes and the speaker continued. And Senator Gaylord made a strong point that I want you all to look in. It is the difference between the alleged and the real government. That which you see and vote for is not the real government, but the alleged government—a sort of screen behind which the real government hides. To illustrate this he said:

"Standard Oil was fined \$20,000,000 by the alleged government. But when the real government got in action it set that fine aside."

He might have went on and said that the alleged government of Missouri fixed the passenger and freight rates that railroads might charge, but that the real government also knocked a hole in that. He might have cited a thousand similar instances. He could even have dropped into Scott county and pointed out where the alleged government had assessed the cost of a ditch proceeding against Ben Gratz, et al., the Johnstone Land Co. and how the real government knocked the props from under that.

You and I helped to pay that \$300 printer's bill—for the money was taken from the public treasury and paid to the "Benton Bank, assigned." I have never been able to get at the bottom of that transaction but, as I understand it, the then organ-grinder borrowed money on that claim from the bank and some of "the party" endorsed for him. Had they not been able to get it out of the treasury, somebody would have had to pay the bank—and the organ-grinder didn't have a cent. See!

Anyway, the governing power does not lie in the men who hold the official titles. Property rules. And if you look about and discover the men who own the country you can put your finger on the ruling power."

After concluding his speech Senator Gaylord offered Socialist books for sale and sold out in a very few minutes. He spoke again at 8 o'clock and that time he was better supplied to meet the demand for Socialist literature.

And the picnic was a success from every point of view. There was no horse-racing, gambling, etc.

A Newspaper

May be of benefit to the people of a community, and it may be

AN INJURY

Depending entirely upon the point of view. Some newspapers regard a few selfish and useless citizens as

"THE PEOPLE,"

But the Kicker is not of THAT CLASS. It regards the useful citizens—the workers—as the people and believes that when the producers are

PROSPEROUS AND HAPPY

All is well and the goose hangs high. If this be your idea, patronize

The Kicker.

Patronize the Kicker--\$1.00 a year.